The Monarch

Volume II Number III | Saint Leo College, Saint Leo Florida | February 14, 1983

SAINT LEO SUED OVER APPARENT HAZING INJURY

By Laura Richards
News Editor

Stephen Flynn, a former student at St. Leo, has filed negligence lawsuit against the college due to an injury he received in a fraternity rite February 15, 1982. The Lawsuit was filed on December 20, 1982 in Pasco County Circuit Court. Flynn seeks a jury trial and is asking for more than $5,000 in order to cover current medical expenses and to compensate for future losses.

Flynn, age 19, claims that he was permanently injured when he was encouraged to participate in a mud-sliding ceremony, which was part of the hazing activities for the Sigma Beta fraternity. The fraternity is not named in the suit, because according to Flynn's attorney, A. Clark Cone, the members of the small local fraternity are all influenced by "peer pressure" and couldn't possibly be responsible for the incident. Cone maintains however, that the college was "negligent because it had allowed such a dangerous initiation ceremony to take place." According to the lawsuit, St. Leo had "breached it's duty of care" by allowing these ceremonies. Dr. Southard defended by saying that "generally speaking, all fraternities are warned here that it is their responsibility and liability."

As for Flynn's current physical condition, he is out of the hospital, where he had undergone an operation to fuse a hip bone to his vertabra. He is now living with his parents in Texas, and though he is not paralized, it appears that he cannot engage in any sports activities, and according to Cone, "...he certainly can't engage in most of the activity that you and I would do."

NEW LIBRARIAN WELCOMED

By Kay Elliotte
Monarch Correspondent

The Saint Leo College Library recently welcomed a new professional librarian to its staff. Mr. Albert F. Spencer joined the library as Audiovisual Librarian at the beginning of the semester.

Mr. Spencer holds a Master's degree in Library Science from Clarion State College, Clarion, PA and is currently completing his doctoral degree in Library and Information Studies at Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL. Spencer has been Librarian/Media Specialist at a number of secondary schools in the western U.S. and is certified by the Florida State Department of Education as an educational media specialist.

While at FSU, Spencer held dual graduate assistantships in Library and Information Studies and the Men's Intercollegiate Basketball program. The latter reflects a life-long interest in athletices as a participant, teacher, and administrator. After earning a B.S. Ed. degree in Social Science, Health and Physical Education from Slippery Rock State College, Slippery Rock, PA, Spencer played semi-professional baseball in the Pittsburgh, PA area and later served as Y.M.C.A. athletic director in Kittenning, PA. Additionally, he has an M.S. in Athletic Administration in progress at Slippery Rock State College.

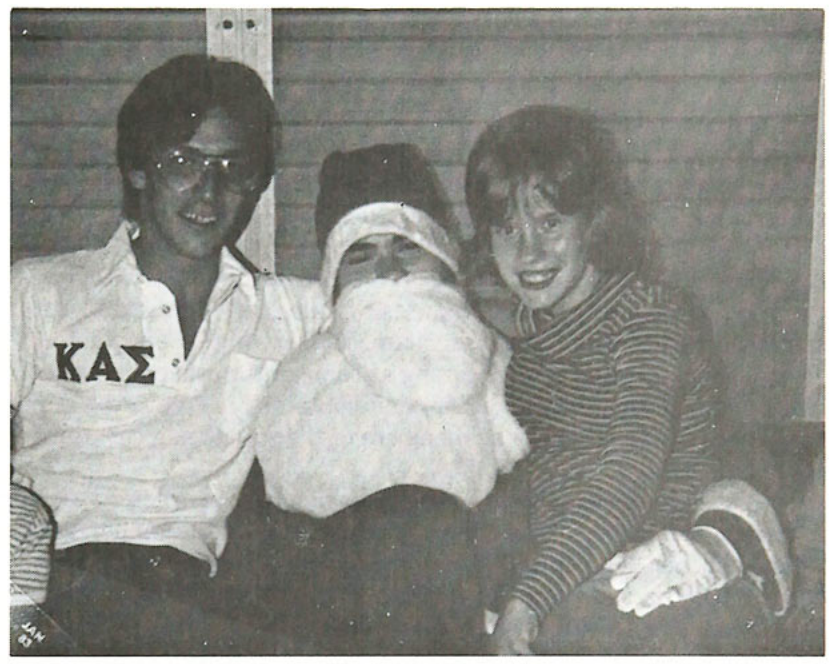
Mr. Spencer holds membership in the American Library Association, the Association of College land Research Libraries, and the Florida Association for Media in Education, and is a member of Beta Phi Mu, and national library honor society.

Spencer's hobbies include sports, photography, viewing classic movies, stamp collecting and the study of Hispanic and Native American cultures.

FACULTY-WIVES CLUB SPONSORS EIGTH ANNUAL DINNER THEATRE

On February 12, St. Leo's Faculty Wives Club held their major annual fund raiser for the organization. The performance was "The Robber Bridegroom," a college production directed by Dr. David Golden and managed by Ms. Katy Brehmer. This production closed on Sunday. The matinee performance was at 3:00, followed by a social from 5:30 until 7:00. The evening activities began at 7:00 with chicken cordon bleu, spinach salad, broccoli, rolls and carrot cake all prepared by the college's own master chef, Dennis Quenneville. This was followed by the evening performance at 8:15. The proceeds from this project will be invested into a College project. The money from this particular show will go toward the refurbishing of the Duncan Lounge.

The Faculty-Wives' Club was founded in 1973, and consists of female administraters, female faculty members, and the wives of all faculty members. Mrs. Southard is the honorary president and Cathy Reynolds is the active president of the organization. The club, since it's beginning, has been both a social organization, and as stated by Joy Shepherd, director of public information and a member of the club, "always dedicated to the beautification of the college campus." The latest contribution to the school has been the redecoration of the Lion's Lounge, all thanks to the efforts of the volunteers in the Faculty-Wives Club.



Kappa Alpha brother's Larry Barasch (on left), and Bruce Geiger (Santa Claus) with friend, at Christmas time.

A SPECIAL FEELING AT CHRISTMAS FOR KAPPA ALPHA SIGMA

By John Mulligan
Monarch Correspondent

On Sunday, December 12th, the Kappa Alpha Sigma Fraternity celebrated a very special Christmas party. The Fraternity spent that afternoon with the Scott's Home for the Handicapped of Zephyrhills. All twenty-one brothers and two little sisters participated in the twelve mile trek to downtown Zephyrhills, where the home is located.

The project had its origin two years ago when the Fraternity held its first Christmas party at the home. The project was enjoyed and liked so well, that the Fraternity voted to hold the party every year.

The Scott's Home is a building that houses 28 children who range in real age from four to eighteen. Their mental ages range from six months to fourteen. The child becomes a member of the home either by being placed in the program by his or her parents, or by court order (victim of child abuse and neglect). The home staffs full-time people who supervise and care for the children. Other people volunteer their services. These people take part in educating the children, providing recreation and caring for them. They try to involve the kids with the events of regular everyday life; they do a fantastic job.

In early November, three brothers who were assigned to organize the project, approached the director of the home, Mrs. Scott. She said the home would be delighted to have the party again. Mrs. Scott supplied a list of gifts that would be appropriate for each child. The gifts ranged from puzzles to big red fire trucks. She told the brothers that punch and cookies would be fine for a snack. The Fraternity made sure that each of the 28 children received a very special gift. They brought cookies, and asked a local MacDonalds for help in providing a suitable beverage for the children. Last, but not least, they borrowed a Santa Claus outfit from the Zephyrills Chamber of Commerce. The Fraternity had one brother in mind who could fill the role of a great Santa. The party was now ready to begin.

The afternoon started with brothers entering the living room of the home, to be greeted enthusiastically by the children. The Fraternity members sat on the floor and chairs in between the children. At first, some of the brothers were hesitant, but the children were so well behaved and cute that the brothers began to feel comfortable. The brothers joined the children in singing Christmas carols, and two little children even presented a song especially for Kappa Alpha Sigma. After about an hour, it was time for the man in the red suit to appear. Old Kris Kringle entered through the back door, and the children were ecstatic. He brought with him his sack of toys, and read out each child's name to come sit on his lap to receive their gifts. The children asked Santa all sorts of questions; they took pictures with him, and generally hung all over him. Soon, it was time for Santa to leave. He slipped away while the children were busy with their toys and games. The brothers played with the children for a while, but just as it had been with Santa, it was time for them to leave also. They ended the afternoon by singing, "We Wish You A Merry Christmas," said their good-byes, see ya next year, and ended a very fulfilling day.

The Fraternity felt unanimously that there was a special feeling they experienced that day. It was wonderful to see the faces of those kids. It was great to know that Kappa Alpha Sigma had brought some joy into their lives.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

Putting together a college newspaper by the staff is sometimes a thankless dedication. It is my observation that during the tenure of Theresa Schretzmann as editor, the ***Saint Leo Monarch*** newspaper improved considerably in layout and design, editing and writing.

Editing requires talents of several facets. Ms. Schretzmann deserves an accolade for her accomplishments as editor. So here it is. Well done, Theresa.

By Brother Bernard OSB

REVIEW

LAKE ECHO SUITE

By Pamela Schressler
Arts Editor

The College production of Dr. Ernie Williams' original ballet, the *Lake Echo Suite,* performed in December, was a success as a whole, even though it contained certain elements of disorganization and lack of discipline. The music was and is a masterpiece, its mood fluctuates from folk to medieval and lent itself easily to the story of the ballet. The costumes, designed by Joseph Geiger, and the lighting, done by Dennis Henry, were both ethereal and otherworldly.

The principal dancers, Paula Knowles, Vickie McGough and Margo Campbell, remained constant in their performances every night. They did not suffer from lack of concentration or poor timing as some of the others in the chorus and cast. All things considered, the production contained a great deal of potential which was not fully realized by the members of the supporting cast until the last two days of its run.

Paula Knowles was exquisite in her portrayal of the character *Pan*; she is by far the strongest member of the company, illustrated by the simple fact that she was the only dancer "en pointe." Every movement she made was controlled and precise, her body is solid muscle, unlike many of the other dancers, who are again this year, still embarrassingly overweight.

Vickie McGough danced as if she was a feather blown about the stage by the wind, she brought extreme fragility and delicacy to the character *Leotis.* Her lifts with Ken were the most beautiful episodes of the production.

Margo Campbell as *Lilith,* the enchantress, was her usual vivacious self. She posesses an extraordinary degree of energy, seconded only by *Leslie Sheehan,* a freshman dance major who played one of Lilith's followers.

The choreography for the ballet was created by Mrs. Lois Henry and in many places was extremely interesting and surrealistic. The most outstanding pieces were the dances of *Pan* and *Lilith,* and the floating lifts belonging to *Darleth* and *Leotis.*

Editor's note: Pam's review should have appeared last semester but various problems delayed its publication until this time.

Monarch

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Arts Editor .....Pamela Schuessler
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Staff Writers .....Kevin Betlel
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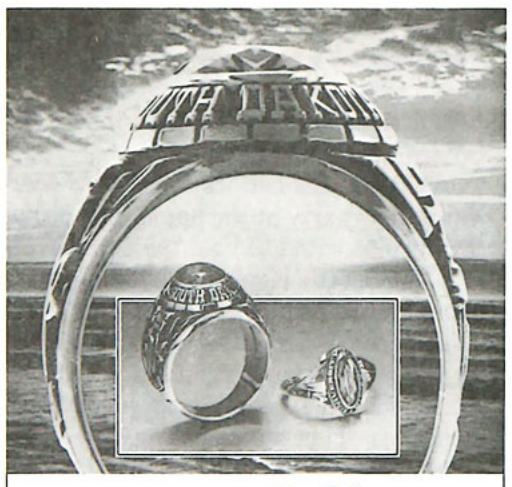

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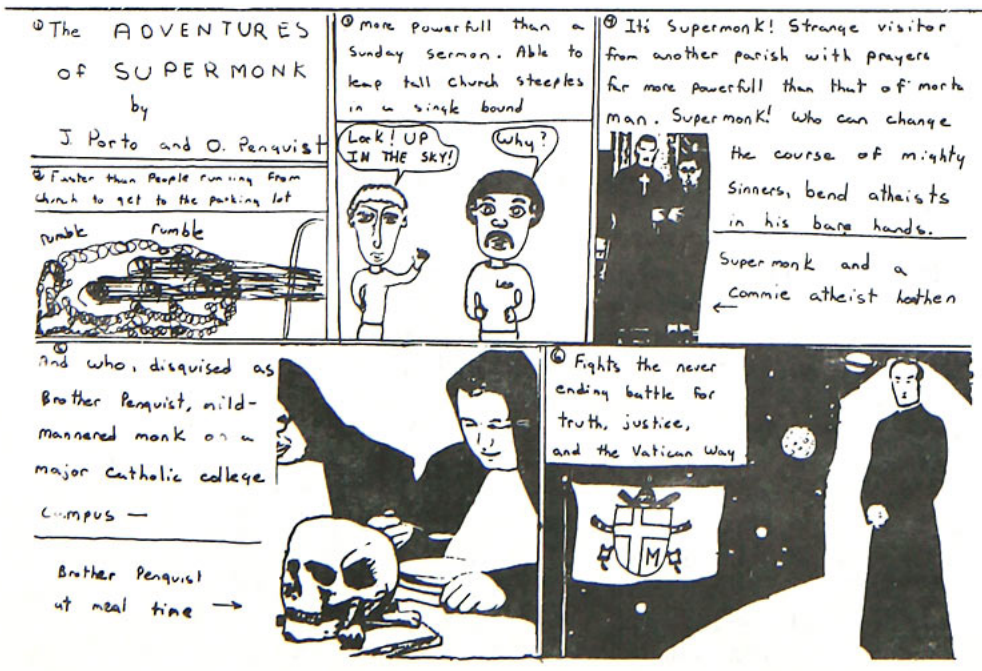
The ADVENTURES of SUPERMONK by J Porto and O. Penquist
Faster than People running from church to get to the parking lot
rumble rumble
more powerfull than a Sunday sermon. Able to leap tall church steeples in a single bound
Look! UP IN THE SKY!
Why?
It's Supermonk! Strange visitor from another parish with prayers far more powerfull than that of mortal man. Supermonk! who can change the course of mighty Sinners, bend atheists in his bare hands.
Supermonk and a Commie atheist heathen
And who, disguised as Brother Penquist, mild-mannered monk on a major catholic college campus —
Brother Penquist at meal time
Fights the never ending battle for truth, justice, and the Vatican Way

NEWS IN BRIEF...

THE SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM has received national accreditation from the Council on Social Work Education. This was awarded on January 24, 1983. This will benefit all of the graduates of the program, and all those involved in the program, including Ms. Frances Martin, A.C.S.W., professor of social work, and Alan Merson, A.C.S.W., assistant professor of social work who initiated the self-study in 1980, and submitted it to the Council in 1981

PEGGY THOMPSON INJURED IN ACCIDENT

Last January 15th, Peggy Thompson was involved in an automobile accident while driving early in the morning on what is commonly referred to as "the road to nowhere" (State Road 581).

She was critically injured and placed in an intensive care unit. Soon after, she was transferred to a hospital in Tampa, where she received the best care available. Since that time she has been moved out of intensive care, but still receives special attention from the hospital staff.

She has been visited regularly by family and friends, and much of her recovery is attributed to the loving care she has received. According to her doctors, she has been making a remarkable recovery.

As of February 8, *The Monarch* notes that Thompson was admitted into surgery in order to improve the use of her legs.

BIG BROTHER / BIG SISTER

By Kevin Bethel
Monarch Writer

This year the social work club of St. Leo College is planning to participate in the National Big Brother, Big Sister program in the state of Florida. The idea is to get students more involved with their surrounding community.

The program is an informal one, where students are asked to volunteer to become a big brother or big sister to a needy child in the local area. It is being offered as a support system for Rainbow House, a theraputic treatment house for adolescent boys in Dade City, and Health and Rehabilitative Services, a public agency in Florida that operates treatment centers for maladjusted adolescents and other needy individuals.

Becoming a big brother or big sister involves a simple process. First one has to volunteer. Then a short biography is written and the volunteer's name is placed on the roster with the names of other volunteers. This information is then sent to H.R.S., where a preliminary check into the volunteer's background is done. While this data is being processed, a representative from the agency will come out to discuss the different problems the child may have. At the same time you (the volunteer) will be going through evaluation - purposely on a one to one basis - so that the representative can assess your potential as a new big brother or sister. After successful completion of all the above steps, an initial introduction to the little brother or little sister and his or her guardian(s) is arranged. From here on you are left to work out a schedule for visiting.

Emphasis is now placed on the volunteer being a good role model for the child. As for the amount of time and money concerned, as little as two hours a week is required and for money, as much or as little as you wish to spend.

Activities that encourage delinquent adolescent behavior are obviously looked down on; things like sharing a beer, a joint or going to see an x-rated movie together. The idea is to help the child develop into a more responsible adolescent which would lead to a more secure well-adjusted adult. The good things you can do are almost limitless. You can take in the Saint Leo Campus together (make a picnic out of it), recapture your childhood, skip rope, sail, fish, hike, ride (bikes or horses). Let the child show you some of his favorite things and places. Explore the relationship together. Make the whole experience a learning one. But especially don't forget to involve the child's parent(s) or guardian(s). By doing so you can help them come to a new understanding of each other, their failures and their limitations.

There are no special requirements for the volunteer to make any type of regular report to the agency. If you need some advice or help in solving a problem that has developed, then you can always seek help from a social work lecturer on campus or the agency. Usually it is more convenient and helpful for some of the volunteers to get together informally and discuss their different experiences as new big brothers and big sisters. But be warned to always keep an air of confidentiality and avoid gossip (don't mention any names).

Prudence and honesty are of the utmost importance in the relationship. The volunteer should let his or her little brother or little sister know that their friendship may only be temporary, either because of graduation and/or college breaks (vacation). This frankness will help to prepare the child for the eventual seperation. It also helps to create a positive atmosphere of mutual trust, understanding, and repsect.

Because of the extent of the voluteers involvment and influence with the child, it would be quite easy for the child to idolize the volunteer. This must always be guarded against because the idea (object) is not to supercede the parent(s) or guardian(s) but to help them. Don't attempt to be a super big brother or big sister because eventually you may have to cancel an outing and disappoint the child. This usually hurts the child and can lead to a slight loss of trust and respect for the volunteer by the child. Avoid making promises you can't keep or have no intention of keeping.

Does this sound like something you want to become a part of ? About forty students (some of them your friends) have already signed up to become voluteers in this program. If you're interested, you can contact Cheryl Girade, the President of the Social Work Club, at phone # 588-9970, Marmion/Snyder Hall room 358. Just give her your name and telephone number.

You can make a difference - so volunteer.

OUT OF MY HEAD

Satire by Jim Porto

"How I Bled It"

While Jim is away studing behavior patterns of student employed librarians of the female persuasion, he gratiously let me take over his column.

I am Otto Penquist, and all my life I've had a dream. I had always wanted to bleed. To bleed without purpose would not serve me nor anyone; but to bleed, to become a phlebotomist, and to serve others doing so was my greatest dream. How was one to go about this? One could not very well say, "Hey, how about a venesection?"

Then, on the dates of Jan. 18-20, the Saint Anthony Blood Drive came to the Saint Leo College. Now my dream would be fullfilled. Accompanied by my friend and fellow cartoonist, Jim Porto, we went off to give blood. Jim, a seven time blood donor, seemed quite happy about what layed ahead. He was singing, "I'm gonna give blood, I'm gonna give blood, I'm gonna give blood." What was his obsession in blood? Then I remembered, he played Renfield in "Dracula." In fact, one write-up said he played the role with "some credibility." This thought crept in my mind and kept echoing. Then Jim looked at me with what seemed to be an evil gleem in his eye and said, "Time to go?"

We arrived at the desk, and Jim said in a low voice, "Follow me, lad. I'll create a diversion while you get a needle and ram it in me. Got It?" I said in reply, "why don't we just fill out the forms?" "Sure, act natural, just like one of them. Who would suspect? You're a genius kid," he responded.

We then had our tempertures taken. The nurses whispered something to each other and insisted on using rectal thermometers. We proceeded to comply when something flashed, it looked amazingly like a camera, but the nurses said it was a new type of X-ray and we checked out. Jim turned red, I was confused, but off we went for the blood test. I scored an A+ which wasn't bad as I didn't see any questions. Some people were getting O's; now that's low.

We then went off to the tables where people were lying down to give blood. It was quite painless, which upset Jim who was yelling, "Put the needle in deeper! I want pain, do you hear me, pain!" Then he started carrying on about how blood was red, and how the sunset was red, and how he knew a girl who was better looking than a sunset.

Suddenly he stopped. I noticed him staring at someone. It was a girl named Monica who happened to like cafeteria food. In fact, it was obvious that she just come from the cafeteria as food was coming out whole and intact from her vein. "See," Jim said, "I told you that the food doesn't digest.

Then came Dave Thomlinson; he tried to give blood but only tokens came out. When it was over, Jim inquired on when he could do it again. Then we sat down.

The place where we sat down was surrounded by a number of free gifts. Jim said, "People shouldn't give blood for the gifts, but because they want to." He then took a mug, a frisbee, a patch, a bumpersticker, and a brownie.

It was over, and I had accomplished my dream. There were some people who wouldn't give. Excuses were, "I drink too much orange juice and have acid blood," "I gave at the office," and a variety of others, but I knew the real reason. Then there were the brave souls who gave for the first time, only to be disappointed because they didn't die like they were told they would by those who never gave. I enjoyed myself and hope to do it again.

SPORTS SHORTS

MONARCH SOCCER FINISHES 4-10-1

The St. Leo Monarchs Soccer team finished their 1982 season with a 4-10-1 mark. Highlighting the Monarchs season was a 15-0 homecoming trashing of Trinity Baptist College. Standouts on this years team included Patrick Baboun, Mike Sears, Joe Hill, Joe Armenia, and Duke Leonard. The Monarchs were coached by Mr. John Swart.

TALBOT WINS 10K ROTC RUN

Carlos Talbot won the recently held ROTC 10 kilometer Gold Bar race, over 154 other competitors here at St. Leo. Talbot won the race in 33:29.5. Lorna Sutherland was the top women finisher, with a time fo 42:43.7.

WOMEN PLAY COMPETITIVE

Under the direction of coach Paula Smith the St. Leo Monarchs Womens Volleyball team finished another season of competitive play. Playing on this year's team was Marie Kohle, Mary Lunkes, Lisa Gaudette, Martha Ohler, Rhonda Carmen, Sue Yinger, Suzie Loyzeli, Jeannie McIntosh, CArla Fantonzi, Amy Dion, and Maureen Nolan.

DID YOU KNOW?

By Donna Gwynn

ABOUT TREES...

Nature has provided the world with certain complex structures which actually absorb pollution at an incredible rate. These structures are commonly known as trees.

It is well known that trees accomplish a variety of tasks which benefit mankind. They produce oxygen and absorb carbon dioxide, both of which are functions essential to man's survival. Tree roots store water in the ground, as well as preventing soil erosion; and of course, trees add incomparable beauty to our surroundings.

However, they perform another feat which is very important to the continued existence of our present and future world. Bruce Roberts, a plant physiologist of the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Ohio, was featured in *Science Digest* and explained the process. Apparently, leaves are covered with hundreds of thousands of cilia, (also called hairs) and stomata, (also called pores) which function to nourish and protect the tree, but also work together to capture the tiny particles of pollution found in the air we breathe.

The cilia trap floating pollutants which wash to the soil during a heavy rain. The stomata capture contaminating gases which then travel to other sections of the tree where they can be metabolized.

Roberts went on to explain that the amount of dirt a single left accumulates is more than meets the eye. A beech or elm tree, approximately 100 years old, is estimated to have as many as 500 thousand leaves. An acre of such trees would be able to trap over 20 tons of polluting materials in only one season of growth. A sycamore tree, which is considerably smaller, can collect up to 15 tons of pollutants per acre, and 10 tons is estimated for a needle-leaved pine tree.

With the growing problems of pollution brought on by man's industrialization, it could very well be that the most effective method of purifying the air is, and will be, to grow more trees and preserve those that are now standing. Considering how much money is spent per year on man-made equipment to clean the atmosphere, it seems a terrible waste not to take advantage of nature's own air filter.

ABOUT ALCOHOL...

The lightheadedness and dreamlike feeling you get, when you consume alcohol, may be serious warning signals from your brain.

Burton and Bella Altura, physiologists at the State University of New York, were featured in *Science Digest* and explained the theory. According to this husband and wife team, the physical effects felt by all who consume this alcohol are the results of the lack of blood in the brain. Studies performed by the Alturas in rats and dogs have shown that as alcohol consumption increases, the flow of blood in the brain is severely decreased.

The brain has many complex regions responsible for various functions. When the blood flow in the brain is steadily decreased, the main areas are affected. Consequently, speech, thinking, motor ability and memory are all affected. This deprivation of blood in the brain seems to correlate with the high occurance of accidents resulting from drunk driving. In many cases these symptoms are dangerously complicated and the euphoric feeling is followed by inconsciousness and sometimes death. The effects of alcohol are even more critical with the so-called "binge" drinkers, those who may not necessarily drink during the week but who do consume large quantities of alcohol on holidays and on weekends. In many cases drinkers who fall in this category are examples of the fatal effect alcohol can have. Lack of blood in the brain can cause stroke-like symptoms and autopsies have sometimes shown that actual brain tissue has been destroyed.

The studies made by the Alturas on rats have suggested that only cerebral blood vessels are highly susceptible to the effects of alcohol. Vessels in other parts of the body are capable of developing tolerance to alcohol or can only be affected by very high levels.

Maybe our bodies are trying to tell us something whenever alcohol starts to make us feel "good." NOW YOU KNOW.

PEOPLE YOU SHOULD KNOW

The College Union Board -clockwise from bottom left - Chris Shaughnessy (special events), Arlene Harris (secretary), Jim Brown (concerts), Laurie Macpherson (films), Jim Hiers (travel), Ali Quevedo (dances), Diane MacDonald (treasurer), Holly Goretsky (vice-president) and in the middle of it all Chris Maggio (president).

Student Profile: EILEEN McGLINCHEY

By William Chauncey
Monarch Correspondent

October was a very important month for the students at Saint Leo College. Unfortunately, advisory grades were handed out; Kappa Alpha Sigma had their annual Halloween party; the Renaissance festival was a great success; and we should not forget the Parent's Weekend when we had to mind our manners.

Another significant event that took place was the crowning of the 1982 Homecoming King and Queen. This event seems to be one that is overlooked by a lot of students. Well, Eileen McGlinchey and Paul Salone were crowned "Alumni Homecoming Queen and King." The student profile this time is Eileen McGlinchey. Another subject of this article will be how a Queen becomes eligible for nomination and how she is chosen.

To be selected Homecoming Queen is quite an honor at Saint Leo College. To be considered for nomination, you must carry at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average. Eileen has a 4.0 average, and has been a member of the Gamma Alpha Society for three years. She has been recognized by the Student Government Association every year for her outstanding preformance.

Another important factor is that you must have proven yourself a valuable member to Saint Leo College and the surrounding community. In Eileen's freshman year she pledged Psi Theta Epsilon and in her Junior year she served as vice-president for the sorority. She joined several other clubs during her Junior year. Being that she is a Pre-Law concentrator, joining the Pre-Law and Debate Society was a smart move on her part. She also joined the Student Government Association, and the Residence Hall Staff in Snyder Residence Hall.

Currently, in her Senior year at Saint Leo College, Eileen is the co-chairman of the Student Government Association's Dorm Life Committee. She is also on the executive board of the Pre-Law and Debate Society. This year she was selected by Sigma Phi Epsilon to be a little sister for their fraternity. Eileen was also nominated for "Winter Weekend Queen," by Sigma Alpha Epsilon. In the 1983 Edition of " Who's Who," she was also recognized. On October 17, 1983 she was installed as an Eucharistic Minister for the Campus Ministry program.

Last but not least, to be selected as Homecoming Queen you must attend a special dinner held for all candidates. At this dinner you must meet the alumni who will be selecting the queen. Here they judge on the basis of your contributions to Saint Leo College and the Community, your personality, and your appearance. To be selected by former Graduates of Saint Leo College is quite an honor. *Congratulations Eileen !*

Editor's Note: Ms. McGlinchey is spending her last semester in Tallahassee working for the Constituency Services office as part of the Governor's Internship Program.

Faculty Profile: MAURA SNYDER

By Edward St. Ivan
Monarch Writer

The recipient of three outstanding faculty member awards insists there are more talented teachers on campus than her. She partly attributes her many awards and certificate of outstanding merit and preformance to the visibility of the English teachers.

She has had the opportunity to teach students of varied concentrations since composition and literature are required coursework for all majors.

Ms. Snyder was greatly inspired to teach by her experiences as a student at Mount St. Scholastica College in Kansas, and the University of Notre Dame, her alma maters. These experiences reinforced her belief that a good teacher should never stop being a student.

Having spent many years as a student and a teacher, Ms. Snyder believes strongly in getting a good liberal arts education .

Those students interested in English Teaching or English Writing as a major should talk to Dr. Budd, Chairman of Humanities or Dr. Prizeman , Assistant Chairman of Humanities.

Ms. Snyder mentioned editing, script writing, speech writing, journalistic writing, and publishing as possible careers for students with a writing concentration.

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MEDICAL MESSAGE
from the Florida Doctors

THE FLORIDA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, INC. 1891

SCOLIOSIS SCREENING

Scoliosis is a progressive disease which causes an abnormal curvature of the spine. It is a childhood disease occurring most frequently between the ages of nine and 15, during the period of most rapid growth. The physicians of Florida want you to know that due to school screening programs, the incidence of serious scoliosis has been significantly decreased in our state.

Early detection of idiopathic (which means "cause unknown") scoliosis in school children can prevent serious deformity. It is estimated that one percent of all children have significant scoliosis which will progress with the passage of time; nine out of ten of these cases are girls. Because the affliction is virtually symptom-free, it can become worse as the victim grows older. This can cause permanent disfiguration of the child's back and increasing curvature can radically distort vital organs which may cause death in early childhood.

In Florida, scoliosis screening programs examine all school children between the ages of 11 and 14 yearly. The procedure is painless and is usually performed by a specially trained volunteer or by a physician. It involves viewing the spine from various angles for deviations. If abnormalities appear to exist, the child is given a notice to take to his or her parents advising them to consult a physician for confirmation of the diagnosis and an x-ray, if necessary.

This screening allows for early detection and treatment with therapy using a brace and in most cases, eliminates

the need for major surgery to correct this deformity.

Parents should have their children examined annually by the family physician or pediatrician if they are unable to attend the screening program at school. Many childhood diseases today are preventable through widespread immunization and early detection. Hopefully, all of our children in Florida will be given an equal chance to avoid any disease that might cause harm through such programs as scoliosis screening.

This is a medical message from the Florida Medical Association on behalf of the doctors of Florida presented as a public service feature of this newspaper.

OPINIONS

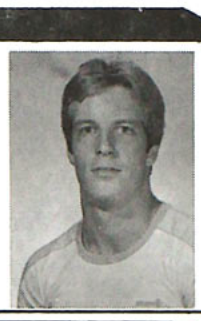
DO YOU BELONG TO A FRATERNITY OR SORORITY AND WHY?

Lisa Pizzano
Senior

Yes, I am a sister of Psi Theta Epsilon. Because it has shown me what sisterhood really means.

Kay Cappanelli
Senior

No, because living off campus, I would not be able to devote the time that I see fit.



Mike Taylor
Junior

No, I don't have the time to devote to a fraternity, my time is dedicated to the baseball team.

Marilyn Remler
Junior

Yes, Phi Tau Omega, because the enjoyment and the friendships are everlasting.

Margo Campbell
Sophomore

No, because sororities are extremely time consuming and my major, dance, is what I wish to devote my time to.

Steve Martel
Sophomore

Yes, I am a brother of Kappa Alpha Sigma. Since I have become a brother I have never felt so confident and sure about myself; thanks to brotherhood.

Dennis Corrigan
Sophomore

Yes, I am in a fraternity. Sig-Ep gives me the following organization benefits: "real-world" preparation, social involvement, and the benefits of being in a national fraternity.

Timothy Lovett
Sophomore

No, because I don't have the time. First semester I needed to hit the books in order to be eligible to play for second semester on the varsity basketball team.